

# PLAINS ART MUSEUM

## Northern Plains Summer Art Institute Moves Programming Online

### Press Release

For Immediate Release (May 2020)

Fargo, ND - In an effort to slow the spread of COVID-19, Northern Plains Summer Art Institute, a summer art program for Native American high school and college students, will be moved from an on-site campus program to an online only program for 2020.

“Our commitment to education and art for our students is our number one priority. Shutting down the program before it starts is not acceptable, and with the creativity and experience of our educators and artists, we have decided take our program online for this year,” said Joe Williams, Northern Plains Summer Art Institute creator, and Plains Art Museum Director of Native American Programming. The Native American Education Association also believes the Institute’s shift to an online format will be the first instance of its kind.

Students will receive an “art care package” with art materials and supplies and will have access to online learning created specifically for this institute. There, they’ll be able to participate in group drawing and critique sessions, as well as meeting in small groups with their art instructors online. Once completed, there will be a gallery space that will hold their work, once the museum is opened to the public.

The Northern Plains Summer Art Institute (NPSAI) is a two-week intensive art program for Native American high school and college students seeking an art education that mixes fundamentals in art and a connection to their cultural identity. Students will spend two weeks with their peers learning from active Native American professionals in multiple disciplines of the art world. A part of the Museum’s Creativity Among Native American Artists Initiative, the program is free for all who attend. The program anticipates returning to the Circle of Nations School for in person instruction for 2021.

For more information, please email Joe Williams at [jwilliams@plainsart.org](mailto:jwilliams@plainsart.org).

Plains Art Museum is the largest art museum in the Dakotas and Western Minnesota. It is general admission free and educationally-focused thanks to strong and growing support from over 800 households and businesses. The Museum manages a permanent collection of over 4,000 objects, organizes and presents dozens of annual exhibitions, facilitates public art projects, and leads over 200 educational programs and experiences for all ages each year. The Museum, and its Katherine Kilbourne Burgum Center for Creativity, is located at 704 First Avenue North in downtown Fargo. For more information about visiting or supporting your art museum, visit [plainsart.org](http://plainsart.org).

Circle of Nations School is an inter-tribal off-reservation boarding school, chartered under the Sisseton-Wahpeton Dakota Oyate and funded by the Bureau of Indian Education. Circle of Nations School serves American Indian youth in grades 4 through 8.

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